



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 6
1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200
DALLAS, TEXAS 75202-2733

December 19, 2000

**VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS OVERNIGHT MAIL AND VIA
CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED #7000 0520 0022 2562 7695**

The Prentice-Hall Corporation Systems, Inc.
15 Columbus Circle
New York, NY 10023-7773
Registered Agent for NL Industries, Inc.

**Re: Tar Creek Superfund Site, Ottawa County, OK; Rural Operable Unit 4; Request
that you perform RI/FS and pay costs; Special Notice: Please respond with a good-
faith offer within 60 days**

Dear Sir or Madam:

This is to invite NL Industries Inc. ("you") to enter into an agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to undertake a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) regarding hazardous substance contamination in certain rural areas that are part of the Tar Creek Superfund Site (the "Site") and to pay certain EPA costs. The Site is located in Ottawa County, Oklahoma. The rural areas that will be the subject of the RI/FS are referred to in the enclosed Special Notice as Rural Operable Unit 4 or ROU4. The hazardous substances in question may pose a danger to human health (especially children's health) or to the environment.

The EPA is asking you to enter into an Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) (a copy of this AOC is enclosed) to conduct the RI/FS and to pay costs because we believe you are potentially responsible for the cost of the cleanup under the Superfund law. The enclosed Special Notice explains your potential responsibility more clearly.

Please note that EPA has sent a similar letter to other potentially responsible parties (PRPs). As explained in the enclosed notice, we encourage you to discuss this matter with the other PRPs. The name and addresses of the other PRPs are included in the enclosed notice.

In addition to avoiding the costs of litigation, settling with the EPA provides you with another advantage. Under the Superfund law, settling with the EPA helps protect you should another responsible party sue you for costs which that party pays to the EPA.

Please carefully read the enclosed Special Notice. The Special Notice requires you to respond within 60 days with a good-faith offer to conduct or finance the RI/FS. If you wish to

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